



MEENAI BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year

1952

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G.P. Wallace, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

including the Annual Report of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

R.J. Pritchard, M.S.I.A.

MENAI BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Menai Bridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report for
the year 1952.

From a review of the statistics it would appear
that the general health of the community is satisfactory.
Although there are no truly reliable indices by which the amount
of illness in a community may be measured, consideration of
vital statistics over a sufficiently long period will certainly
bring to light certain trends.

I should point out that comparisons of the statistics
of a small community with those of a much larger community
should be made with reserve.

For example, it will be noted that the infant mortality
rate (88.2 per 1,000 live births) is excessively high compared
with the infant mortality rate for England & Wales (27.6 per
1,000 live births). In point of fact there were 3 infant deaths
which although indeed regrettable, can hardly be held to be an
aspersion on infant welfare in Menai Bridge.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and
Members of the Council and to my fellow officers for their help
in the preparation of this report.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. Mervyn Thomas.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	825
Population (Registrar General's estimate mid. 1952)				1914
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	470
Number of council houses	...	...	...	146
Rateable value	...	...	...	£11000
Sum represented by a penny rate...			...	£41.5s.0d

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	20	13	33
Illegitimate	1	0	1
	21	13	34

The Birth Rate per 1,000 estimate population was 17.8. Rates for previous years were; 1949, 14.5; 1950, 16.9; 1951, 15.9. The Birth Rate for Anglesey in 1952 was 17.0.

The age and sex composition of a district affects the death and birth rates and to allow for this the Registrar General has issued figures for each local authority area known as comparability factors. When the rates are adjusted by applying these factors they can be more equitably compared with the national figures and with rates for other areas which have been adjusted by their own comparability factor.

The Adjusted Birth Rate was 17.9. Birth Rate for England & Wales, 15.3.

Stillbirths

Nil.

Deaths

<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
9	13	22

The Death Rate per 1,000 population was 11.5 compared with 18.4 in 1951, 16.7 in 1949 and 21.7 in 1950. The Death Rate for Anglesey in 1952 was 13.4.

The Adjusted Death Rate was 8.9. Death Rate for England & Wales, 11.3.

Deaths of Infants Under One Year.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	1	2	3

The Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births was 88.2. Rates for previous years were: 1949, 47.0; 1950, 0.0; 1951, 96.8. The Rate for England & Wales, 27.6, Anglesey, 47.4.

Deaths of Infants Under 4 Weeks.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	—	—	—
	1	1	2
	—	—	—

The Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births was 53.8. Rate for England & Wales, 19 (provisional), Anglesey, 33.

Maternal Deaths

Nil.

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH (ALL AGES)

The following table shows the causes of death in the District. These figures have been supplied by the Registrar General and are in accordance with the new International Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

CAUSES OF DEATH			M	F
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	0	0
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	0	0
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	0	0
4.	Diphtheria	...	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough	...	0	0
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	0	0
7.	Acute poliomyelitis..	...	0	0
8.	Measles	...	0	0
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	0	0
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	0	0
11.	Malignant, neoplasm, lung, bronchus..	...	0	0
12.	Malignant, neoplasm, breast	...	0	1
13.	Malignant, neoplasm, uterus	...	0	0
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	0	1
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	...	0	0
16.	Diabetes	...	0	0
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system...	...	2	3
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	3	1
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	1	1
20.	Other heart disease	...	1	2
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	0	0
22.	Influenza	...	0	0
23.	Pneumonia	...	0	0
24.	Bronchitis	...	0	0
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	...	0	0
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	0	0
27.	Gastritis enteritis and diarrhoea	...	0	0
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	0	0
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	1	0
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations	...	0	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	1	2
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	0	0
34.	All other accidents..	...	0	1
35.	Suicide	...	0	0
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	0	0
ALL CAUSES			9	13

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

These services are provided by the County Council and by General Medical Practitioners in the District. The following figures are quoted by courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Total number of children immunised during	1952	=	25
" " " " " "	1951	=	38
" " " " " "	1950	=	33
" " " " " "	1949	=	19
" " " " " "	1948	=	36

Vaccination against Smallpox.

Twenty children were vaccinated during the year. Sixteen of these were primary vaccinations and four were re-vaccinations.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

B.C.G. vaccination is carried out by the Chest Physician in collaboration with the County Medical Officer and his staff. The scheme provides for the vaccination of new born infants born into tuberculous households and of tuberculin negative contacts of known cases. During 1952 seven such vaccinations were carried out in the District.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis).

Table showing cases notified during the
year, classified in age groups.

Disease	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15 & over	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	-	-	3	13	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	1	-

Tuberculosis.

Notifications of tuberculosis were as follows:-

Age	Sex	Respiratory or Non-Respiratory
1½	M	Non-Respiratory
20	F	Respiratory
23	M	"
27	F	Non-Respiratory
31	F	Respiratory
33	F	"
51	F	"
64	F	"

In addition to the above, a notification of transfer from another authority's area was received in respect of a 29 year old male with respiratory tuberculosis.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Summary of visits and work carried out during the year.

Dwelling houses inspected for nuisances.

(a)	Number of houses.	...	108
(b)	Number of inspections.	...	132
Number of drains tested with colour, water or smoke.			30
Visits to work in progress.			60
Interviews with owners or representatives.			21
Dwelling houses where nuisances abated.			92
Visits in connection with overcrowding.			18
Visits in connection with infectious diseases			20
Visits for disinfection of premises.			-
Visits to premises re vermin.			-
Visits to bakehouses, restaurants, cafes, canteens and hotel kitchens.			12
Visits to ice-cream premises.			24
Visits to fish friers' premises.			4
Visits to other food-preparing premises.			6
Visits re Shops Acts.			-
Visits to workplaces.			1
Visits re rats, mice and other infestation.			22
Notices served.			
(a)	Informal.	...	16
(b)	Statutory.	...	9
Number of cases in which legal proceedings taken.			-

Infectious Disease - Investigation and Disinfection.

Sixteen cases of scarlet fever were reported and enquiries were made by the Sanitary Inspector regarding contacts. The children affected were from 4 - 8 years of age and the majority were attending the infant department of the primary school.

As elaborate terminal disinfection methods have been found to be valueless in checking the spread of this disease no terminal disinfection was carried out by the council but the occupiers of the houses where the cases had occurred were advised to wash bedding and wearing apparel and to carry out a thorough cleansing of the premises. Disinfectant fluids were given to the householders.

Inspections under the Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions. (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories WITHOUT MECHANICAL POWER in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced.	7	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies:-	-	-	-	-
(a) WITHOUT MECHANICAL POWER, but enforcement of Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 by the Local Authorities revoked by the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938.	2	4	-	-
(b) Others i.e., Factories WITH MECHANICAL POWER.	-	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	9	8	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars. (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found.		Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	To H.M. Inspect. (4)	By H.M. Inspect. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	NIL	NIL	NIL
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-			
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-			
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-			
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	NIL	NIL	NIL
(a) Insufficient	2	2			
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	-	-			
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	NIL	NIL	NIL
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework).	-	-			
TOTAL	2	2			

Shops Act, 1950

No statutory action was taken under Section 38 of this Act with respect to any premises.

Water Supply.

The Anglesey County Council took over the water supply undertaking on 1st April 1952.

Proportion of total number of dwelling houses supplied by public water mains:

(a) direct to houses.	...	...	589 (95.6%)
(b) by means of standpipes...	...	...	-

There are 27 houses dependent on pumps and wells for their water.

Drainage and Sewerage Disposal.

No extension or improvement to the Sewerage system was carried out during the year.

Two schemes are in project for the extension of 9" sewers in Pentraeth Road and to the Tyddyn To Housing Estate.

There are 31 houses in the outlying area of the District which are not served by the main drainage scheme. Seven of these have septic tanks and 24 have dry closets.

Refuse Disposal.

Refuse is collected weekly in a hired lorry on 2½ days a week. It is dumped on one of the fields of Castellior Farm.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) a. Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	189
b. Number of inspections made for the purpose.	231
(2) a. Number of dwelling-houses included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	...
b. Number of inspections made for the purpose.	-

HOUSING (continued).

1. (3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. ...	10
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. ...	37
2.	Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices. Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. ...	16
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year. (a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. ... (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices: (a) By owners. ... (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. ... (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts. (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. ... (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices. (a) By owners. ... (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. ... (c) Proceedings under Section 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936. (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. ... (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished. ... (3) Number of houses awaiting demolition. ... (4) Number of houses in which undertakings accepted for use other than for human habitation. ...	1 1 - 6 6 - - - 8

3. (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. | - |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. | - |

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part III. Section 26.

Number of houses in respect of which Clearance Orders were made.	-
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Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.	10
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein.	...			36
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.	...			72
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	...	...	...	6
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	...	...	...	2
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such case.				12
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.	...	...	...	1

Summary of Housing Defects and Nuisances Remedied during the year.

Keeping of animals.	...	...	...	-
Offensive accumulations.	...	...	...	1
Sanitary accommodation,	insufficient	...	...	-
	defective	...	...	11
Drainage.	reconstruction	...	...	3
	repaired	...	...	12
	cleansed	...	...	30
Cesspools and septic tanks	abolished	...	...	4
	repaired	...	...	-
Conversions to w.c.'s	...	...	...	-
Refuse receptacles.	...	...	...	12
Food Stores.	...	...	...	-
Water Supplies	...	...	...	-
Walls and ceilings	...	...	...	21

Floors.	...	...	44
Windows and ventilation	...	...	16
Baths, lavatory basins and sinks.	...	...	18
Staircases.	...	...	4
Coppers (defective).	...	...	-
Dampness.	...	...	28
Roofs and rainwater pipes.	...	...	52
Yard paving.	...	...	6
Chimneys and fireplaces	...	...	12
Miscellaneous.	...	...	15

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Preserved Food - Preparation or Manufacture.

There are no such premises in the District.

Milk

Number of registered premises:

Milk sellers	...	3
Dairy Premises	...	1

Ice Cream

Number of premises registered:

(a) for the manufacture of ice cream.	-
(b) only for the sale of ice cream.	9

Thirty four samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological grading.

Results of samples taken.

Grade I	...	19
Grade II	...	10
Grade III	...	3
Grade IV	...	2

The interpretation of these results may be stated as follows:-

GRADES ONE and TWO - satisfactory. GRADE THREE - fair, capable of improvement. GRADE FOUR - unsatisfactory.

Fish Friers' Premises.

Number of premises registered.	...	1
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Offensive Trades

There are no offensive trade carried on in the District.

Slaughterhouses

There are no slaughterhouses in the District.

Knackers Yards

The licence for the Knackers Yard at Refail Newydd was withdrawn on the occurrence of the death of the owner. Applications for transfer of the licence were not granted owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the premises and of the operation of the business.

Unsound Food

Food condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption (outside slaughterhouses).

Butchers' Meat (including offal)...	...	-
Other food (including tinned food).		121 tins.

Rodent Control

The Public Sewers are baited and poison is placed in manholes every three months.

The refuse tip and open spaces are also treated, including the Council Housing Estates.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action was taken in respect of any individual under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

